

## *Second Showing*

TODD BALAZIC

I do get to say  
the clever thing I say  
about Nietzsche and the pathos of distance,  
to which she says, "Yes,

exactly." And for a moment  
words seem as vital in air  
as they do on paper.  
For a moment

the light in the room  
is sweet as the wine, burgundy and fragrant  
and filled with the power to erase.  
Standing in the doorway saying good night

I'm centered,  
all balance and charm,  
before going home  
and lingering in the kitchen,

noticing the plant over the sink  
like it isn't mine,  
green leaves so quiet  
in the life they find.